



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Town Council

Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

8:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Streeter called the meeting to order at 8:26 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Peruzzotti

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Town Manager Mark Oefinger.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

None.

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Michael Noel, 100 Williams Street, Noank, stated that narrowing the streets and eliminating parking spaces in downtown Mystic is unacceptable. He stated that sidewalks are wider than necessary, and the narrower streets present a danger to residents, as cars will not be able to move out of the way for emergency vehicles. Furthermore, Mr. Noel does not think that private developers should have exclusive rights to parking in the pump station area.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Minutes

2011-0191 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of September 20, 2011 are hereby accepted and approved.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Administrative Items

2011-0182 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Mystic River Homes, Inc. Residents Council - \$25.00 - Library Miscellaneous

Various Donations - \$165.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

City of Groton Matching Funds - \$93.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2011-0014 Groton Housing Authority Annual Report

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2011-0067 Use of Town of Groton Open Space by Horses

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2011-0192 Water Pollution Control Facility Agreement

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried unanimously

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

Councilors received emails regarding the Building Code Board of Appeals, Neighborhood Revitalization Zone (NRZ), and Mystic Streetscape.

Councilor Watson attended a Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) workshop.

2011-0195 Consolidation of Town and Board of Education Services

CONSOLIDATION OF TOWN AND BOARD OF EDUCATION SERVICES

Councilor Watson requested a referral to discuss the possibility of sharing services between Town Operations and the Board of Education (i.e., insurance, accounts payable, grant writing, etc.).

The Town Clerk noted that the RTM has formed a new Special Consolidation Committee chaired by Rep. Pasqualini for the same purpose.

Mayor Streeter stated that Rep. Pasqualini will be invited to attend meetings on this referral.

a. Town Councilors (continued)

Councilor Kolnaski and Mayor Streeter attended a dinner honoring law enforcement at the Groton Elks Club.

Councilor Kolnaski attended the Senior Center Computer Coordinating Council meeting.

Councilor Flax attended the Noank School Reuse Task Force meeting.

Councilor O'Beirne and Mayor Streeter attended Fall Festival.

Mayor Streeter received emails regarding the New Year's Day Run and Swim, the Noank School disposition, cost overruns for the baseball field at Fitch Senior High School, and overhanging/leaning trees at Spicer House. He attended ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the Bridge Market and Panera Bread. Mayor Streeter attended a discussion of upcoming activities at the Avery Point campus of UCONN, a meeting with the Town Manager regarding Thames Street, and a local author's night.

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

The Town Clerk stated that the next RTM meeting will be on October 12, 2011, at the Senior Center.

c. Clerk of the Council

The Town Clerk attended Fall Festival as a member of the Groton Rotary.

d. Town Manager

No report.

e. Town Attorney

No report.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Peruzzotti

No meeting, no report.

b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson

No meeting, no report.

c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski

No meeting, no report.

d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets

No meeting, no report.

e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne

No meeting, no report.

f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax

The Personnel/Appointments/Rules Committee met earlier tonight. Minutes will be forthcoming at the next Town Council meeting.

g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro

No meeting, no report.

h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Watson

The Public Works/Recreation Committee met earlier tonight. Minutes will be forthcoming at the next Town Council meeting.

i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Streeter

No meeting, no report.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

2011-0192 Water Pollution Control Facility Agreement

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MUTUAL RELEASE AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council, pursuant to Section 5.1 of the Town Charter, hereby approves the Mutual Release and Confidentiality Agreement concerning the Groton Water Pollution Control Facility, as more specifically outlined by the Town Attorney, in executive session, to the Groton Committee of the Whole on September 27, 2011. The Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager to cause to be prepared and to execute such legal documents as shall be necessary and/or desirable to effectuate the same, subject to the approval of the Town Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Johnson and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Lori Watrous, Office Assistant